

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakuma et al., and claims 11-29 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

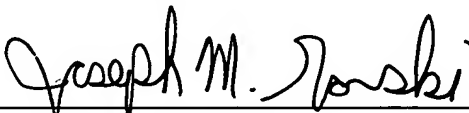
Accordingly, without acquiescing to the appropriateness of the prior art rejection issued by the Examiner, and solely to further advance prosecution of this application, by the current Amendment, claim 10 has been canceled and claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance with the allowed claims being 11-29 and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 1, 2006